

ensures that our community colleges are preparing students for the manufacturing jobs of the future.

Secondly, I have circulated a discussion draft of the America Competes Reauthorization Act which includes several initiatives that would help revitalize American manufacturing such as innovative technology federal loan guarantees to small- and medium-sized manufacturers to help them become more efficient and stay competitive and the creation of a network of industry-led manufacturing centers that will accelerate the development and commercialization of manufacturing technologies and processes.

I strongly believe that if the United States is to remain competitive in the long term, we need to ensure that American companies maintain the capacity to manufacture new and innovative products here at home.

The decline of U.S. manufacturing is a threat to middle class jobs and our economy. We need our manufacturing sector to be the most sophisticated in the world, using transformative technologies and innovative manufacturing processes. H.R. 1421, the manufacturing provisions in the Competes Act, and the "Make it in America" agenda will help to ensure that U.S. companies have the tools and the workforce they need to meet the challenge ahead.

HONORING MS. VIRGINIA
DAVENPORT

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Ms. Virginia Davenport. At a young age Ms. Davenport, along with her five siblings, was put up for adoption due to unfortunate circumstances following the family's move to Philadelphia. In and out of foster homes during these early years, Ms. Davenport faced the myriad of challenges children can experience within the foster care system. Despite these difficult times, Ms. Davenport pressed on with faith in a God above and the determination to improve her situation.

Ms. Davenport went on to attend the Power Sewing School, Simon Gratz High School, Government Nurses Aid Training School, and various other educational institutions. She recently graduated from the first level of the Deliverance Bible Institute (DEBI) with outstanding marks and will continue with the next level of DEBI this upcoming semester. Throughout all of this, she has made every effort to reach out and support young people at every opportunity she is afforded. She is active in Intercessory Prayer, the Home Care Department, and Helping Hand Ministries. Ms. Davenport intends to continue to dedicate her time to bettering herself and her community and hopes to be an inspiration to those around her.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose leadership and commitment to community has enriched the lives of countless individuals. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Ms. Davenport for her lifetime of service and dedication to Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF ITS WASHINGTON PROJECT CENTER AND 25 YEARS OF ITS VENICE, ITALY PROJECT CENTER

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, the Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) Washington Project Center opened 40 years ago to bridge the divide between scientific research and social policy recommendations. Since 1973, more than 1,100 WPI students have completed more than 400 projects for government agencies, community-based companies and institutions, multinational corporations, and nonprofit partners.

The Center's success became the model for the WPI Global Studies Program, which has seen more than 22,000 budding scientists and engineers successfully complete and implement 3,600 projects across a wide range of areas, including environment, consumer protection, patents and copyrights and art and history.

At WPI's 39 centers across the world—covering four continents and cities ranging from Alberta to Zurich to Bangkok to Cape Town to Panama City—students work with some of the world's largest companies, most influential non-profit and non-governmental organizations and most important scientific governmental agencies.

Among the centers is the Venice Project Center, founded in 1988 by WPI Professor and native Venetian Fabio Carrera. In his 25 years of leading students to Venice, Carrera has spearheaded invaluable research about, among other areas, erosion within the city's famed canals, which was captured in a book by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

These great young minds bring ingenious approaches to an outstanding array of challenges—and the projects fundamentally change the students, building leaders who possess passion, proficiency, and a certainty that their life's work can change the world.

Mr. Speaker, I'm so proud to represent WPI, a world renowned institution for higher learning committed to educating our next generation of leaders. While WPI students are working to better communities across the globe, their longstanding history of service to my hometown of Worcester, Massachusetts, should also be recognized.

I commend WPI students, faculty, leadership, and staff for their commitment to science education and global leadership. I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing their incredible achievements.

TO RECOGNIZE THE WOODS SERVICES' 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of 100 years of committed dedi-

cation by Woods Services to children, adults and families affected by developmental disabilities.

Founded in 1913 by Philadelphia school teacher Mollie Woods, the organization has worked for the last century to advance the quality of life and the standard of care for individuals with disabilities—a cause worth acknowledgment each day, but especially on this monumental anniversary. Today, Woods offers exceptional and experienced care for those with autism, brain injuries, learning disabilities and emotional and behavioral challenges.

The loyal staff at Woods provides a vital service in our community, and a remarkably important role in the life and development of those they care for. I am honored to represent those who do such important work at Wood, and wish them continued success in the next 100 years.

BRIDGE DEDICATION

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I consider it a great tribute to have the Poplar Street Bridge renamed in my honor. I wish to thank those who participated in making this happen. Let me personally thank . . .

Let me especially thank my friend, Representative Penny Hubbard, for her untiring effort in managing the bill through the legislature.

Let me say to Rep. Penny and those that participated in naming this bridge in my honor that prior to this dedication, two bridges have had a special meaning in the life of the Clay family and me. The first was the McKinley Bridge, where the electric train carried my father, five days a week, back and forth, to work in Venice, Illinois, for more than 30 years.

He earned a good living that enabled him to take care of his wife of 60 years and us 7 children. How can the Clay's not remember and appreciate what that fabulous bridge meant in our lives?

The second bridge that had a tremendous influence in my life was the Edmund Pettis Bridge in Selma, Alabama. It was there on a Sunday that John Lewis and 600 other marchers attempted to cross on their way to Montgomery. They were peacefully demanding the right to register and vote like all other Americans.

But Governor George Wallace ordered local and state police to stop the march on the flimsy ground of "public safety."

What followed is now infamously known as "Bloody Sunday." Police, armed with billy clubs, dogs, and tear gas, were seen around the world on television beating men, women, and children unmercifully.

That scene on the Edmund Pettis Bridge was the stimulus for passing the 1965 Voting Rights Act and subsequently my election to Congress. At the time, there were only five blacks in Congress. Today, because of what happened on that bridge, there are 42 blacks.

My mission while in Congress for 32 years was to build bridges that carried resources to the economically underprivileged, and to those discriminated against because of race, gender and age.